

CASE: 1216

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

9 September 1993

A LE NINH DISTRICT DOCUMENT WAS SHOWN TO A JOINT TEAM DURING THE 10TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY. AN ENTRY LISTS THE SHOOTDOWN OF ONE TWO-BODIED RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT ON 27 JUNE 68 BY THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF THE TIEN GIANG TEAM OF THE LE RIN STATE FARM. THIS ENTRY PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 1216 WHICH INVOLVES THE LOSS OF AN O-2A ON 26 JUNE 68. THIS CORRELATION IS BASED ON THE LOCATION, TYPE OF AIRCRAFT, AND DATE GIVEN IN THE DOCUMENT. (REF 3)

27 September 1993

DURING THE 3RD JFA (3-17 DEC 88), THE JOINT INVESTIGATION TEAM ATTEMPTED TO VISIT THE SITE OF REFNO 1216. AFTER REACHING THE GENERAL VICINITY OF THE SITE, THE TEAM WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE THE CRASH SITE. (REF 4)

5 October 1993

ON 4 SEP 93, IE1 TRAVELLED TO NGAN THUY VILLAGE, LE THUY DISTRICT, QUANG BINH PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1216. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED FOUR WITNESSES, ALL OF WHOM HAD VISITED A CRASH SITE IN THE AREA. ONE OF THE WITNESSES TURNED OVER BONES, A DATA PLATE AND ONE DOG TAG TO THE TEAM. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT CONSENT TO TURN OVER ANOTHER DOG TAG WITHOUT A LARGE MONETARY "REWARD." THE DATA PLATE IS CONSISTENT WITH AN O-2 TYPE AIRCRAFT AND THE DOG TAG CORRELATES TO ONE OF THE TWO UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THIS CASE. A CILHI ANTHROPOLOGIST'S PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION INDICATES THE REMAINS ARE HUMAN. THE TEAM SURVEYED THE CRASH SITE. A SEARCH YIELDED ONE BONE FRAGMENT AND PORTIONS OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT. (REF 5)

10 June 1994

FROM 23 TO 24 APR 94, RECOVERY ELEMENT TWO (RE2) CONDUCTED A JOINT DETAILED SURVEY NEAR NGAN VILLAGE, LE THUY DISTRICT, QUANG VINH PROVINCE. THE SITE IS LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATE 48QXD66108245. THE CRASH SITE MEASURED 100 X 50 METERS ON A 70-80 DEGREE SLOPE. RE2 CONDUCTED A SURFACE SEARCH FINDING SMALL AMOUNTS OF WRECKAGE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE SITE. DURING THE DETAILED SKIRMISH SEARCH NO HUMAN REMAINS OR PERSONNEL EFFECTS WERE FOUND. THE MATERIAL EVIDENCE RECOVERED IS INSUFFICIENT TO CONFIRM OR DENY WHETHER ONE OR BOTH INDIVIDUALS WERE IN THE AIRCRAFT AT THE TIME OF IMPACT. (REF 7)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 13 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1222-0-02 (ACCNO 1095)
Name: SILVER, EDWARD DEAN

Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 25 Feb 1977

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O -
Grade	O4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	68 in / 1.73 mtrs	Weapon No	K6169988
Birth date	2 Feb 1934	Weight	170 lb / 77.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	IOWA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QXE559039
Lat/Long: 171258N / 1062759E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 4
Mission Province: QUANG BINH
(formerly):
Mission District: LE THUY
Mission Date: 5 Jul 1968 0410L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93, May 92, Aug 87, Apr 85
Investigations: Aug 93
Surveys: Aug 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (4) Probably in the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4C	Serial: 7713
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: J79
Call Sign: SHARKBAIT 71	1 Serial: 420162
Year: 63	2 Serial: 418607

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 13 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1222-0-01 (ACCNO 0905) Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: NAME Date Status assigned: 10 May 1978

Nationality
Service
Grade
SSAN
Serial No
Birth date
Home State

DATA

|Religion |PW Camp \$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

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=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

17 April 1975

ON 5 JULY 1968 MAJ EDWARD D. SILVER, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, AND
NAME WERE FLYING AN F-4C (#63-7713), AS LEAD OF A TWO-SHIP
FORMATION ON A NIGHT ARMED RECONNAISSANCE MISSION OVER NORTH VIETNAM.
(DURING THE MISSION THE TWO AIRCRAFT DID NOT FLY IN FORMATION BUT
PERFORMED VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE INDIVIDUALLY AND MAINTAINED CONSTANT
COMMUNICATION. ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS OBSERVED DURING THE MISSION.) (REF 1)

DURING THE MISSION THE FLIGHT LEADER CALLED THAT HE HAD SEEN SOME
LIGHTS (ON THE GROUND) AND THAT HE WAS GOING TO DROP FLARES. AS THE
WINGMAN TURNED TO PICK UP THE FLARES HE SAW A LARGE FIREBALL IN THE
VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) XE 559 039. THE WINGMAN IMMEDIATELY
TRIED (AND FAILED) TO CONTACT THE FLIGHT LEADER. NO PARACHUTES WERE SEEN
NOR WERE ANY BEEPER SIGNALS RECEIVED. (REF 1)

TWO OTHER SQUADRON AIRCRAFT WERE FLYING IN THE AREA AND SAW THE
SILVER NAME AIRCRAFT TAKE A DIRECT HIT, RESULTING IN A ROUND FIREBALL
WITH STREAKS OF FIRE COMING OUT THE BOTTOM. A SECOND, SMALLER EXPLOSION
OCCURRED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STREAKS ABOUT TWO SECONDS AFTER THE INITIAL
FIREBALL. THE ONLY VISUAL SEARCH MADE WAS BY THE WINGMAN AT THE TIME OF
THE INCIDENT. BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE HOSTILE FIRE IN THE AREA, A DAYLIGHT
SEARCH WAS IMPOSSIBLE. THE ELECTRONIC SEARCH WAS FUTILE. (REF 1 & 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED
ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE.
THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE
FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION
AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. MAJ SILVER AND NAME ARE
CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

25 September 1978

WHILE BEING DEBRIEFED DURING OPERATION HOMECOMING, PFC MEHRER, U.S.
ARMY MADE A PROBABLE IDENTIFICATION OF COL SILVER. A PROPAGANDA FILM HE
SAW WHILE A POW SHOWED A BODY IN A FLIGHT SUIT, LYING FACE DOWN ON A
BEACH. AFTER THE BODY WAS TURNED OVER, THE CAMERAMAN FILMED A CLOSE-UP
VIEW OF THE FACE AND NAME TAG. PFC MEHRER IS ALMOST POSITIVE THE NAME ON
THE TAG WAS "SILVER". (REF 3)

=== REFERENCES ===

17 April 1975

REFERENCES: <1> MSG 12FTW, CAM RANH BAY AB, 050321Z JUL 68. <2> RPT

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, CO 12FTW, AF FORM 484 W/STATEMENTS 16 JUL 68. <3> RPT DCSOPS
USAINTC IR 2-261-0071-73, 11 MAY 73. <4> LTR , DPMCB, 25 JAN 74. <5>
240457Z SEP 93 CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 April 1985

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON NAME AND EDWARD D. SILVER WERE
PASSED TO THE SRV DURING THE 17-20 APR 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

4 December 1987

A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO BOTH PARTIES WAS PASSED BY JCRC ON 4
AUG 87 TO THE SRV EMBASSY IN BANGKOK PURSUANT TO AGREEMENTS REACHED
BETWEEN GENERAL VESSEY AND SRV FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

20 August 1993

CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT
DURING THE 28 JUL 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

17 April 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: NAME 1222-0-01, AND EDWARD D. SILVER
1222-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

19 April 1975

COORDINATES CHANGED FROM XE 735 151 TO XE 559 039 BASED ON AF FORM
484.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

5 October 1993

ON 12 SEP 93, IE1 TRAVELLED TO TRUONG SON VILLAGE, QUANG NINH DISTRICT,
QUANG BINH PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE CASE 1222. THE VNOSMP AND PROVINCE
TASK TEAM WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE WITNESSES FOR THIS CASE BECAUSE THE AREA
IS A NEW ECONOMIC ZONE, RESETTLED IN 1987. STEEP KARST AND LOOSE ROCK
FORMATIONS CREATED SIGNIFICANT SAFETY CONCERNS PROHIBITING THE TEAM FROM
SURVEYING THE LAST KNOWN INCIDENT LOCATION CONTAINED IN U.S. RECORDS. THE

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TEAM CONDUCTED AN AERIAL SEARCH OF THE INCIDENT LOCATION REFLECTED IN U.S.
RECORDS. NO EVIDENCE OF A POSSIBLE AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE WAS DISCOVERED.
(REF 5)